

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5270

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 4315

NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM AMSTUTZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER, PK

SUBJECT: MFA REQUEST IMMEDIATE RECALL OF PESHAWAR CONSUL
STOCKWELL EVERTS

1. IT DISTRESSES ME IMMENSELY THAT I HAVE TO SEND YOU THIS MESSAGE AS THE FIRST MATTER OF BUSINESS I HAVE HAD TO ADDRESS AS CHARGE. ONE HOUR AFTER AMBASSADOR BYROADE FLEW OUT OF KARACHI TO WIESBADEN FOR A MEDICAL CHECK-UP, I RECEIVED A CALL FROM MFA ADDITIONAL SECRETARY SHAHNAWAZ TO SEE HIM AT NOON. WHEN I GOT THERE HE TOLD ME, IN THE PRESENCE OF THE DIRECTOR FOR US AFFAIRS, TAUQIR HUSAIN, THAT HE HAD A MOST UNPLEASANT MATTER TO TAKE UP. HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO ASK OFFICIALLY FOR THE IMMEDIATE RECALL OF MR. EVERTS.

2. SHAHNAWAZ THEN WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THE REASONS FOR THIS ACTION. HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN HAD HAD A CONSISTENTLY UNHAPPY EXPERIENCE WITH MR. EVERTS DATING BACK FIFTEEN YEARS FROM THE TIME OF HIS FIRST ASSIGNMENT TO THE COUNTRY IN THE EARLY 1960'S. THERE HAD BEEN AN UNPLEASANT INCIDENT AT THAT TIME WHICH HE SAID, MUST BE IN THE DEPT'S FILES. WHEN IN 1972 THE DEPARTMENT HAD NOTIFIED THE MINISTRY OF ITS PLAN TO RE-POST MR. EVERTS TO PAKISTAN, THE MINISTRY HAD TRIED TO INDICATE TACTFULLY THAT HE WOULD NOT BE WELCOME. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAD NONETHELESS INSISTED ON EVERTS

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ASSIGNMENT TO PESHAWAR IN DISREGARD OF THE MINISTRY'S WISHES.

SINCE HIS RETURN TO PAKISTAN IN THE SUMMER OF 1973 THERE HAD BEEN A STEADY STREAM OF INCIDENTS WHICH HAD FURTHER IRRITIATED THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN. SIDNEY SOBER, DURING HIS TOUR AS CHARGE, HAD TO DEAL WITH SOME OF THESE. THEN IN 1974 AND 1975, MR. EVERTS' BEHAVIOR IN THE FRONTIER HAD AGAIN CAUSE THE GOVERNMENT EMBARRASSMENT, AND EACH TIME THESE INDISCRETIONS HAD HAD TO BE TAKEN UP WITH AMBASSADOR BYROADE OR DCM HOBART LUPPI. THE AMBASSADOR HAD ALLEGEDLY RESPONDED THE LAST TIME THAT HE WAS VERY PAINED TO LEARN OF THESE PROBLEMS AND PROMISED FORCEFULLY TO POINT OUT TO EVERTS THE EXTREME SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH GOP VIEWED THESE INCIDENTS.

3. SHAHNAWAZ THEN PROCEEDED TO SAY THAT SINCE THE LAST DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR BYROADE, MR. EVERTS HAD CONTINUED TO CONDUCT HIMSELF IMPROPERLY. SHAHNAWAZ THEN DETAILED THREE INCIDENTS THIS YEAR WHICH HAD BROUGHT MATTERS TO A HEAD AND PROMPTED THE PRESENT REQUEST. THESE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FIRST, MR. EVERTS HAD ENTERED THE FRONTIER TRIBAL AREA WITHOUT PERMISSION. WHEN MR. EVERTS FILED A REQUEST TO VISIT NORTH AND SOUTH WAZIRISTAN, PERMISSION TO MAKE THE TRIP WAS REFUSED. EH, NONETHELESS, DISREGARDED THIS DECISION AND PROCEEDED TO VISIT THOSE AREAS.

SEOND, DURING A RECENT OFFICIAL VISIT BY MR. EVERTS TO THE TOWN OF DERA ISMAIL KHAN IN SOUTHERN NWFP, HE HAD HELD A LARGE RECEPTION TO WHICH HE INVITED REPRESENTATIVES OF OPPOSITION PARTIES SUCH AS THE BANNED NAP. THIS WAS IMPROPER.

THIRD, AND THIS LAST INCIDENT WAS DESCRIBED BY SHAHNAWAZ AS "INTOLERABLE," MR. EVERTS USED INSULTING "GUTTER LANGUAGE" IN REQUESTING AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER OF THE PROVINCE. ACCORDING TO SHAHNAWAZ, MR. EVERTS ON APRIL 19 CALLED ON THE PROVINCIAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL WITHOUT PRIOR APPOINTMENT TO ASK IN TURN FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE THE CHIEF MINISTER. WHEN TOLD THE CHIEF MINISTER WAS PREOCCUPIED BUT WOULD SEE HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, EVERTS ALLEGEDLY LOST HIS TEMPER AND TOLD THE PROTOCOL OFFICER THAT "YOU CAN GO TO HELL", USED OTHER IMMEDIATE LANGUAGE AND CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS WITH, "I DO NOT CARE TWO HOOTS IF I SEE

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THE CHIEF MINISTER OR NOT." HE THEN STOMPED OUT OF THE OFFICE. SHAHNAWAZ SAID THAT THIS BEHAVIOR WAS DULY REPORTED TO ISLAMABAD AND THE LANGUAGE AND UNORTHODOX BEHAVIOR BY MR. EVERTS WAS CONSIDERED INTOLERABLE. THE MATTER HAD COME BEFORE THE PRIME MINISTER WHO TOOK "A POOR AND SERIOUS VIEW OF THIS AND HAD GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO EXPEL HIM IMMEDIATELY IN VIEW OF HIS INCORRIGIBLE BEHAVIOR."

4. I TOLD MR. SHAHNAWAZ THAT I WAS VERY DISTRESSED TO HEAR ALL THIS, PARTICULARLY AS I HAD KNOWN MR. EVERTS WELL FOR TWO YEARS AND FOUND IT ENTIRELY OUT OF KEEPING WITH HIS CHARACTER TO CAUSE DISTRESS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN. I POINTED OUT THAT THE TIMING OF THIS REQUEST WAS UNFORTUNATE TOO SINCE IN AMY CASEHMR. EVERTS WAS PLANNING TO LEAVE PAKISTAN THIS SUMMER AND RETIRE FROM THE FOREIGN SERVICE. I SAID THAT I WOULD OF COURSE PASS THIS UNHAPPY NEWS IMMEDIATELY TO THE DEPART AND I WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH THE MINISTRY.

5. COMMENT: UPON RETURNING TO THE EMBASSY I SENT WORD IMMEDIATELY TO PESHAWAR FOR EVERTS TO COME TO THE EMBASSY AND HE WAS ABLE TO ARRIVE HERE THIS EVENING. HE HAS GONE OVER THE ABOVE ACCOUNT VERY CAREFULLY AND GIVES A QUITE DIFFERENT VERSION OF WHAT OCCURRED IN EACH OF THESE LAST THREE INCIDENTS. THEY ARE:

A) EVERTS SAYS THAT SINCE BEING POSTED TO PESHAWAR HE HAS NOT ENTERED EITHER NORTH OR SOUTH WAZIRISTAN AND NEVER HAD ANY PLANS TO DO SO WITHOUT GOP PERMISSION. COL. KHUSHWAQTUL MULK, THE CONSULATE'S SENIOR LOCAL EMPLOYEE, DID VISIT SOUTH WAZIRISTAN LAST FALL, HOWEVER.

B) EVERTS SAYS THAT DURING A RECENT VISIT TO DERA ISMAIL KHAN FOUR OF THE PERSONS HE SAW WERE THE SONS OF THE LATE NAWAB OF TANK WHO HAVE BEEN FRIENDS OF THE CONSULATE FOR MANY YEARS. ONE OF THE FOUR BROTHERS WAS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY PRIOR TO ITS BANNING. THIS BROTHER AND ONE OTHER MEMBER OF THE FORMER NAP WERE PRESENT AT A RECEPTION EVERTS GAVE IN D.I.K. WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 35 PERSONS. MOST OF THE POLITICIANS ATTENDING THE RECEPTION WERE PPP MEMBERS OR SYMPATHIZERS.

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 291800Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5271

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 4315

NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM AMSTUTZ

C) EVERTS DENIES THAT HE EVER USED "GUTTER LANGUAGE" IN TALKING WITH THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OR TOLD HIM "TO GO TO HELL." HE SAYS HE WOULD NEVER HAVE TALKED THAT WAY TO THIS OFFICIAL AS HE HAS ALWAYS REGARDED HIM AS A GOOD FRIEND. HOWEVER, HE ADMITS THAT HE EXHIBITED ANGER AND FRUSTRATION THAT IT TAKES SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE APPOINTMENTS CAN BE MADE WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER AND THE OTHER NWFP MINISTERS. EVERTS ALSO ADMITS THAT HE TOLD THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL THAT HE WAS UNHAPPY AND ANGRY THAT TWO OTHER PPP LEADERS - THE SECRETARY AND THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NWFP PPP - HAD FLATLY REFUSED TO MEET HIM.

6. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE ON THIS PROBLEM. WHILE I AM CONVINCED THAT THE CHARGES MADE AGAINST EVERTS ARE FALSE, DISTORTED, OR EXAGGERATED, I AM SADLY OF THE OPINION THAT WE SHOULD ACQUIESCE IN THE GOVERNMENT'S WISHES, ESPECIALLY SINCE THEIR ACTION IS BASED ON AN OFFICIAL DIRECTION FROM THE PRIME MINISTER. HAD THERE NOT BEEN A PREVIOUS HISTORY OF GOVERNMENT DISPLEASURE ABOUT EVERTS, I THINK OUR PROPER COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE TO TAKE ISSUE ON THE CASE, OR AT LEAST TO ASK THAT THESE LAST PURPORTED INCIDENTS BE OVERLOOKED, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF EVERTS' PLANNED DEPARTURE IN JULY. I DO NOT BELIEVE HOWEVER THAT WE WOULD SUCCEED IN SUCH A DEMARCHE AND I AM RELUCTANTLY OF THE CONCLUSION THAT EVERTS USEFULNESS IN HIS POST WHATEVER THE OUTCOME IS NOW VERY LIMITED. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, CONFIDENTIAL

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I THINK THAT THE BEST COURSE FOR US TO TAKE IS TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT THAT WE ARE ACCEDING TO ITS REQUEST ALTHOUGH WE CONSIDER THE CHARGES ILL-FOUNDED.

7. IF THE DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH THE ABOVE, I WOULD LIKE TO BE INSTRUCTED TO ASK MFA TO GIVE EVERTS UP TO 30 DAYS TO WIND UP HIS AFFAIRS (THEY MAY NOT AGREE), TO PERMIT HIS WIFE ADEQUATE TO PACK, AND TO ALLOW HIS TEEN-AGE DAUGHTER TO COMPLETE HER SCHOOL YEAR IN ISLAMABAD WHICH TERMINATES

ON JUNE 3, I WOULD ALSO WISH TO LEAVE WITH THE MINISTRY A WRITTEN RECORD OF EVERTS' VERSION OF WHAT OCCURRED IN THESE THREE INCIDENTS. LASTLY, I WOULD WISH TO INFORM SHAHNAWAZ THAT I BELIEVE IT IN THE INTEREST OF BOTH COUNTRIES THAT NEITHER SIDE GIVE PUBLICITY TO THIS MATTER. I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE EXPLANATION THE EMBASSY AND EVERTS MAKE IS THAT HE IS DEPARTING HIS POST EARLY FOR UNEXPECTED FAMILY REASONS.

8. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ASK THAT THE DEPARTMENT CALL IN AMBASSADOR YAQUB TO PROTEST THIS ACTION, SAYING THAT WE DO NOT THINK THAT THERE ARE VALID GROUNDS FOR THE KIND OF DEMAND THEY MADE, AND THAT THEY COULD HAVE WAITED TWO MONTHS TO ALLOW MR. EVERTS TO LEAVE ON SCHEDULE. WE SEE IT AS AN UNFRIENDLY ACT TO ONE OF PAKISTAN'S CLOSEST FRIENDS AND SUPPORTS.

9. DURING HIS TALK WITH ME SHAHNAWAZ CONSULTED FROM TIME TO TIME A TYPED DOCUMENT. EARLY ON I ASKED HIM IF HE WISHED TO LEAVE ME A PIECE OF PAPER ON THE SUBJECT. HE SAID NO BUT SAID IT WAS ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO TAKE NOTES, WHICH I PROCEEDED TO DO. I INTERPRET THIS TO MEAN THAT THE MINISTRY DOES NOT WISH TO TAKE A FORMAL WRITTEN PNG ACTION.

10. AS A PERSONAL NOTE I AM VERY SOORY TO SEE ALL THIS HAPPEN. ALL OF US IN ISLAMABAD LIKE AND ADMIRE EVERTS AND HIS WIFE IMMENSELY. WE AT THE EMBASSY HAVE BERY MUCH VALUED HIS KEEN AND PERCEPTIVE JUDGMENTS ON POLITICAL AND OTHER EVENTS ON THE FRONTIER. HE HAS AN IMMENSE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS IN THE PROVINCE AND HIS DEPARTURE WILL BE MISSED BY MANY PEOPLE IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT. THUS, IT IS PAINFUL FOR ME TO SEND THIS MESSAGE.

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1. IF DEPARTMENT AGREED TO EVERTS' EARLY DEPARTURE, I HOPE THAT STEPS CAN BE TAKEN FOR HIS REPLACEMENT, PETER MAHER, NOW AT FSI, TO CURTAIL HIS URDU LANGUAGE TRAINING AND TO ARRIVE AT POST BY JUNE 1 AT THE LATEST. WE COULD WORK OUT SOMETHING TEMPORARILY UNTIL THEN.

12. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ASK THAT THIS MESSAGE BE PASSED TO AMBASSADOR BYROADE WHO SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED AT THE US ARMY HOSPITAL. I THINK HE WOULD WANT TO BE INFORMED AND CONSULTED. HE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH CONGEN FRANKFURT.

13. YOU MAY WISH TO SHARE THIS MESSAGE WITH NEA/PAB CONSTABLE AND PECK AND THE DG. FOR MORE BACKGROUND ON EVERTS EARLIER DIFFICULTIES WITH THE GOVERNMENT, SEE LUPPI TO CONSTABLE LETTER, SECRET, DATED JULY 27, 1975.
AMSTUTZ

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